

A PACKET-SWITCHED MULTIPLE-ACCESS NETWORK SYSTEM WITH
DISTRIBUTED FAIR PRIORITY QUEUING

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ABSTRACT

A packet-switched multiple-access network system with a distributed fair priority

10 queuing media access control protocol that provides multiple levels of priority of access and
fair collision resolution with improved performance is disclosed. In one embodiment, the
system provides high-speed transport of multimedia information on a shared channel.
Further, in one embodiment, MAC level side-band signaling that is useful to other levels of
the network protocol (e.g., the physical layer) is also provided.

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